VOLUME I.

THE

United States Catholic magazine,

RELIGIOUS CABINET:

A MONTHLY PERIODICAL,

CONTAINING CHIEFLY SELECTIONS FROM

The Best Catholic Reviews, Magazines, and other Publications.

You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.--JOHN VIII. 32

Published with the approbation of the Most Rev. Archbishop.

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TO THE READER.

When the Religious Cabinet was undertaken, the following promise was made by the publishers:—"The Religious Cabinet will be an eclectic periodical, containing chiefly selections from the most approved Catholic Reviews, Magazines and other repertories of useful knowledge. Having for its aim to advance the interests of religion, it will embrace all such information as may tend to confirm the Catholic in the principles of his faith, to vindicate its doctrines and practices, and to promote the willing observance of its precepts. Hence the publication of controversial and moral essays will occupy a large share of its pages, while an ample proportion of other matter will be furnished, to diversify its contents and render it acceptable to the general reader..... To enhance the interest and utility of the periodical, a few pages will be devoted to miscellaneous matters, a summary of ecclesiastical intelligence, and occasionally a notice of the Catholic works that are successively issued frow the press." How far the publishers have succeeded in the execution of their plan and in realizing the expectations of the public, it is for others to decide. They will merely observe that the patronage which has been extended to the work, and which they gratefully acknowledge, is a sufficient inducement to continue its publication, notwithstanding the numerous difficulties with which it has been attended. The periodical was commenced with the hope of rendering a service to Catholicity, and with the same view will we enter upon another volume, trusting in the zeal of the Catholic community for the honor and diffusion of that religion which should awaken a common feeling among us all.

The publication of the Cabinet was undertaken by the Rev. Charles I. White and the Rev. James Dolan, upon their own responsibility, the latter having suggested the utility of such a work and assumed a considerable portion of the labor connected with it, and the former yielding to the principal onus of the editorial department. Hereafter the proprietorship of the Journal will be vested in Mr. John Murphy, whose enterprise, energy and acknowledged taste, are a sufficient guarantee to the public, that the work under his management will be deserving of patronage. Rev. Mr. White will continue to discharge the editorial duty.

In looking back upon the year that has elapsed, we recall with gratitude the friendly aid of those who have taken a practical interest in our efforts. First of all, we are indebted to the editors of the different journals who have kindly noticed our undertaking, and for whose assistance in introducing us to public regard, we return our sincere acknowledgments. Our thanks are also due to the Rev. clergy and others who have been instrumental in procuring subscriptions to the periodical. But we feel particularly grateful to our literary collaborators, all of whom we could not mention in a notice like this, nor would their modesty permit us to do so; we cannot, however, overlook the names of Rev. M. J. Spalding, Rev. J. P. Donelan, Rev. E. Knight among the clergy, and Wm. Geo. Read, M. C. Jenkins, Wm. A. Stokes, Esqs., Prof. Walter, and B. U. Campbell, Esq. among the laity, the last mentioned of whom has, by his interesting sketches, given evidence of an able and popular pen, and acquired a lasting claim to the gratitude of the Catholic community. We fervently hope that the co-operation from these various sources will be continued. As to ourselves, we shall endeavor not to be unworthy of it; for we are convinced that a union of talent and of effort, while it demands little from each one individually, will lead to vast and important results for the good of religion.

1

284
67

CONTENTS OF VOLUME I.

Articles marked thus [*] are original. thus, [†] translations.

PAGE

Ancient Church of England, and the Liturgy of the Anglican Church, - - 1
Address to parents on the religious education of their children, - - - 18
Appeal to the Church of England,† - - - - - - - - 182, 213
Celibacy of the Clergy,† - - - - - - - - - 456, 549
Celtic Traditions of Western Europe,† - - - - - - 58, 119, 241
Dogma of an all-ruling Providence confirmed by history,* by Rev. M. J. Spalding, 258
Domestic Peace, - - - - - - - - - - - - - 220
Dress and Address, - - - - - - - - - - - - 112
Desultory Sketches of the Catholic Church in Maryland,* by B. U. Campbell:
Origin and progress of the Cathedral congregation in Baltimore, - - 310
Origin and progress of St. Patrick's congregation in Baltimore, - - 391
Memoir of the Rev. John Francis Moranville, - 433, 478, 524, 556, 622
Fata Morgana, - - - - - - - - - - - - - 238
Form of Government in the Papal States,† - - - - - - - - 115
Honinghaus' Protestant Evidences of Catholicity, - - - - - - - 65
Joseph and his Brothers, a tragedy, - - - - - - - - - 223
Letter of a Missionary from Eastern Tongking, - - - - - - - 49
Letters on the Inquisition, Letter I. - - - - - - - - - 23
Letter II. - - - - - - - - - 90
Letter III. - - - - - - - - - 146
Letter IV. - - - - - - - - - 206
Letter V. - - - - - - - - - 274
Letters on the Holy Eucharist,* by Rev. J. P. Donelan, Letter I. - - - 321
Letter II. - 489, 606
Liturgies of the Ancient Church, - - - - - - - - 295, 334, 385
Litany of the Maternity of our Lady,† - - - - - - - - - 381
Lecture of Pearce Conelly, Esq.* - - - - - - - - - 409
Lingard's History of England, - - - - - - - - 471, 507, 561
Maria, or confidence in God ultimately rewarded,† - - - - 36, 99, 158
Memoir of Bishop England,* by Wm. Geo. Read, - - - - - - 361
Miraculous Virgins of the Tyrol, - - - - - - - - - - 169
Monastic Institutions, - - - - - - - - - - - - 339
Nativity of the B. Virgin,† - - - - - - - - - - - 380

PAGE
Olea Sacra, Holy Oils,* by W. - - - - - - - - - - - 154
Oxford Movement in America, - - - - - - - - - - - 601
Pilgrims of Maryland,* by Wm. A. Stokes, - - - - - - - - 193
Present and Future of the Catholic Church,† - - - - - - - - 129
Progress and Prospects of Catholicity, - - - - - - - - - 416
Religion, - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 585
Religious Aspect of Algeria, - - - - - - - - - - - 592
Sacred Geography of India, - - - - - - - - - - - 234
Summary View of Sacred History, - - - - - - - - 79, 138
Sisters of Charity,* - - - - - - - - - - - - 528
Sketches from British History,* No. I., Cardinal Wolsey, by Wm. Jos. Walter, 537
The Wooden Cross,† - - - - - - - - - 301, 343, 396, 421, 463
The Father, - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 427
The Jesuits,* by P. F. - - - - - - - - - - - - 449
The Middle Ages, - - - - - - - - - - - - - 499
The Lily of the Valley,† - - - - - - - - - 516, 568, 613
The Professions, - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 603

POETRY.

Address to a Moonbeam, - - - - - - - - - - - - 333
Address to Flowers, - - - - - - - - - - - - 343
A Child's first impression of a Star, by N. P. Willis, - - - - - - 568
Benediction of the B. Sacrament,* - - - - - - - - - 298
Cradle Hymn, - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 23
Creation and Redemption, - - - - - - - - - - - 157
Commemoration of the Landing of the Pilgrims of Maryland,* - - - 383
Cupio Dissolvi,* by N. J. Keefe, - - - - - - - - - - 591
Christmas, - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 602
Death of Bishop England,* - - - - - - - - - - - 457
Epiphany, - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 36
Evening Prayer, a Sonnet,* - - - - - - - - - - - 391
Evening Thoughts,* - - - - - - - - - - - - 463
Farewell to St. Joseph's,* by Miss Spearman, - - - - - - - 515
Hymn to the B. Virgin,* - - - - - - - - - - - 420
Lines on the death of an infant, - - - - - - - - - - 205
Legend of St. Rosalie, - - - - - - - - - - - - 268
Lines on Washington,* by G. W. Custis, - - - - - - - - 470
Oblivion, - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 384
Paris on the morning of Louis the Sixteenth's execution, - - - - 232
Portraiture of Byron, - - - - - - - - - - - - 430
Sister of Charity, by Gerald Griffin, - - - - - - - - - 89
Stanzas written in a Church-yard, - - - - - - - - - - 145
Star-light,* - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 554
There is a Shadow on the Earth,* - - - - - - - - - - 99
The Temptation in the Wilderness, - - - - - - - - - 115
The Shamrock, - - - - - - - - - - - - - 181
Thou art, O God! - - - - - - - - - - - - - 220

PAGE
The Emerald Isle,* by Miss SPEARMAN, - - - - - - - - - 349
The Missionary,* - - - - - - - - - - - - - 498
The Marriage Feast,* - - - - - - - - - - - - 507
The Deluge,* by Miss SPEARMAN, - - - - - - - - - - 547
The Close of the Year, - - - - - - - - - - - - 612

MISCELLANY, - - - - - - - - - - 61, 123, 186, 247,
Religious Statistics of the United States, - - - - - - 61
Statistical Account of Rome, - - - - - - - - - *ib.*
Statistics of China, - - - - - - - - - - - 125
Jewish Statistics, - - - - - - - - - - - 186
Statistics of the Church in Great Britain, - - - - - - 247
Coins, - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 248

FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE, - 63, 125, 187, 250, 314, 350, 401, 443, 481, 529, 577, 636

The principal items are:
FOREIGN—Liberia Mission, - - - - - - 63, 318, 407, 483, 637
Decision on Animal Magnetism, - - - - - - - 187
Progress of Religion in Texas, - - - - - - - 189
Festival of Languages at Rome, - - - - - - - 250
State of Catholicity abroad, - - - - - - - - 252
Papal Letters regarding the Church in Spain, - - - 314
Oxford Movements, - - - - - - - - 317, 637
Bible Society, - - - - - - - - - - 318
Conversion of a Jew in Rome, - - - - - - 350, 401
Church in Switzerland, - - - - - - - 444, 580
Appropriations by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, - - - - - - - - - - - - 447
Statistics of the Church in Algeria, - - - - - - 481
Allocution of the Pope regarding the Church in Russia, - 530
Philippine Islands, - - - - - - - - - 531
Statistics of the Church in Texas, - - - - - - 533
Religion in the East, - - - - - - - - - 577
Primary Schools at Rome, - - - - - - - - 636
Paraguay, - - - - - - - - - - - 638
DOMESTIC—Diocesan Synods, - - - - - - - - 256, 360
Ordination, - - - - - 64, 127, 191, 407, 536, 583
Retreats, - - - - - 64, 190, 253, 360, 448, 484, 536
Religious Professions, - - - 127, 190, 448, 484, 582, 639
New Churches, - - - 64, 128, 255, 336, 359, 360, 407, 448, 484, 536, 639
Temperance, - - - - - - - - 191, 484, 536
Origin and Progress of Religion in Hartford, Con. - - 190
Death and burial of the Rt. Rev. Dr. England, - - - 319
Funeral Obsequies of Dr. England at Baltimore, - - - 355
Pilgrim Celebration in Maryland, - - - - - - - 357

PAGE

DOMESTIC—Obsequies of the Rt. Rev. Dr. Conwell, - - - - - 359
Attempt at Moral Reform, - - - - - - - - 484
Annals of Benevolence, - - - - - - - - 487
Schism in New Orleans, and Trusteeism, - - - - - 534
Statistics of the Church in the United States, - - - - 582
Picquet Colony, - - - - - - - - - - - 584
Circular of the Most Rev. Archbishop, - - - - - - 638
Literary Notices, - - - - - - - - 191, 256, 360, 408, 448, 488, 639
Obituary, - - - - - - - - - 64, 128, 192, 320, 360, 448, 488

ERRATA.

Page 154, line 20, for "confirmation and holy orders," read "baptism and confirmation."
" 269, line 13, for "wan," read "van."
" 548, line 22, for "systems," read "cisterns."
" 554, for "To be continued," read "The end."